

§ 14.131

SPECIFICATIONS FOR MARINE MAMMALS
(CETACEANS, SIRENIANS, SEA OTTERS,
PINNIPEDS, AND POLAR BEARS)

§ 14.131 Primary enclosures.

(a) A primary enclosure that is not open on top shall have air inlets situated at heights that provide cross ventilation at all levels and that are located on all four sides of the enclosure. Such ventilation openings shall comprise not less than 20 percent of the total surface area of each side of the enclosure.

(b) Straps, slings, harnesses, or other such devices used for body support or restraint when transporting marine mammals such as cetaceans or sireni-ans shall meet the following requirements:

(1) The devices shall not prevent attendants from having access to the mammal to administer care during transportation;

(2) The devices shall be equipped with sufficient padding to prevent trauma or injury at points of contact with the mammal's body;

(3) Slings or harnesses shall allow free movement of flippers outside of the harness or sling;

(4) The devices shall be capable of preventing the mammal from thrashing about and causing injury to itself, handlers, or other persons, but shall be designed so as not to cause injury to the mammal.

(c) A primary enclosure used to transport marine mammals shall be large enough to assure the following:

(1) A sea otter or polar bear has sufficient space to turn about freely with all four feet on the floor and to sit in an upright position, stand, or lie in a natural position;

(2) A pinniped has sufficient space to lie in a natural position;

(3) If a sling, harness, or other supporting device is used, there are at least 3 inches (7.5 centimeters) of clearance between any body part and the primary enclosure;

(d) A marine mammal may be restricted in its movements according to professionally accepted standards of care when freedom of movement would constitute a danger to the animal or to handlers or other persons.

50 CFR Ch. I (10–1–13 Edition)

(e) All marine mammals contained in a given primary enclosure shall be of the same species and be maintained in compatible groups. A marine mammal that has not reached puberty shall not be transported in the same primary enclosure with an adult marine mammal other than its mother. Socially dependent animals (e.g., siblings, mother, and offspring) transported in the same conveyance shall be allowed visual and, when appropriate for the species, olfactory contact. A female marine mammal shall not be transported in the same primary enclosure with any mature male marine mammal.

§ 14.132 Food and water.

A marine mammal shall not be transported for more than a period of 36 hours without being offered suitable food unless the shipper's written instructions or the shipper's attendant travelling with the mammal direct otherwise. After feeding, a marine mammal shall be rested for 6 hours prior to resuming transport.

§ 14.133 Care in transit.

(a) Any marine mammal shall be accompanied, in the same conveyance, by the shipper or an authorized representative of the shipper knowledgeable in marine mammal care to provide for the animal's health and well-being. The shipper or representative shall observe such marine mammals to determine whether or not they need veterinary care and shall provide or obtain any needed veterinary care as soon as possible. Care during transport shall include the following (on a species-specific basis):

(1) Keeping the skin moist or preventing the drying of the skin by such methods as covering with wet cloths, spraying it with water or applying a nontoxic emollient;

(2) Assuring that the pectoral flippers (when applicable) are allowed freedom of movement at all times;

(3) Making adjustments in the position of the mammal when necessary to prevent necrosis of the skin at weight pressure points; and

(4) Calming the mammal to prevent struggling, thrashing, and other activity that may cause overheating or physical trauma.